



REMARKS

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Claims 3-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 3 has been amended by substituting the word "listening" for the word "listing", thereby eliminating the source of indefiniteness.

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), as being anticipated by Scherpbier (U.S. Pat. No. 5,994,791). The examiner claims that each element of independent claim 1 and each element of dependent claims 2 through 8 is anticipated by the Scherpbier reference. The examiner further states that, as claims 9-22 add nothing new over claims 1 through 8, they too are anticipated by the same reference.

The applicants concede that there are certain similarities between the present invention and the cited reference. Both employ a Web browser running on one computer to establish communication with another computer to which the first computer is networked. However, the similarities end there.

The Scherpbier reference discloses a method whereby a Web viewing session is arranged on a server computer by the user of the first computer via a Web browser running on the first computer. The second computer is able to assume control of a third computer for the arranged Web viewing session. However, control of the third computer is initiated by the user of the third computer by accessing the second (server) computer and asking to join the arranged Web viewing session. The user of the first computer notifies the user of the third computer, by voice (e.g., telephone), e-mail, or otherwise, the existence of the arranged Web viewing session and the session log-on information.

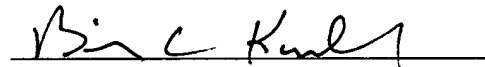
The present invention, on the other hand, discloses a method whereby the user of a first computer establishes communications with an unattended second computer that is networked to the first computer via the Web. The second computer is running a listening program that is responsive to requests for remote access. Communication with the second computer is established by sending the access request using a Web browser and by specifying a URL containing a machine name and a port number, which identify the second computer and the port on the second computer through which the listening program receives remote access requests, over the network. A client agent running on the unattended second computer establishes communication with a third (server) computer and with the browser running on the first computer. Via the browser running on the first computer, the operation of the second computer and communications between the second computer and the third computer can be controlled in real time.

In Scherpbier, there is no listening program, no identifiable port to which access requests are sent, and no client agent for establishing real time communications between the first and third

computer. Clearly, the method disclosed by the present application is patentably distinct from that of the Scherpbier reference. It is believed that the specification, claims and drawings are in a condition for allowance. Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

To that end, if the Examiner feels that a conference will expedite the prosecution of this case, he is cordially invited to call the undersigned. The foregoing is believed to be a full and complete response to the outstanding Office Action. Applicants and Counsel thank the Examiner for his assistance and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

3. The system for remotely accessing a client in a client server system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the listening program in the client machine is [listing] listening on the port number, and establishes communications with the browser over a second port number in response to the request for access.

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